

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application, in light of the present amendment and following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-36 are pending, with Claims 32-36 being withdrawn from consideration. No new matter is introduced.

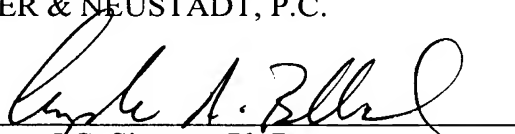
In response to the Restriction Requirement dated March 24, 2009, Applicants elect without traverse Group I, and list Claims 1-31 as readable thereon.

Applicants reserve the right to present claims directed to the non-elected inventions in a divisional application, which shall be subject to the third sentence of 35 U.S.C. § 121.¹

An early and favorable action is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner deem that a personal or telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing this application toward allowance, he or she is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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¹ "A patent issuing on an application with respect to which a requirement for restriction under this section has been made ... shall not be used as a reference ... against a divisional application." See also MPEP 804.01.